



Department of Justice

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FORMER WASHINGTON, MISSOURI HIGH SCHOOL COACH PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

ST. LOUIS, MO - Carl A. Hagedorn, Washington, Missouri, pled guilty this afternoon to possession of child pornography, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway and Franklin County Sheriff Gary Toelke announced today.

"Hagedorn was a Washington High School football coach at the time this crime occurred, however, he is no longer employed by the Washington School District," said Toelke. "I would like to thank United States Attorney Catherine Hanaway and her office for assisting in the prosecution of this case, and members of the Regional Computer Crimes Education and Enforcement Group, the FBI, and the Washington Police for their assistance in this investigation."

"Nothing we do is more important than protecting children from predators. We can only make these cases when we have the commitment of local law enforcement. I am very grateful to the Franklin County Sheriff's Department for their investigation of this case," said Catherine Hanaway.

On January 18, 2006, a state search warrant was executed on Hagedorn's residence in Washington, Missouri. Law enforcement officers found numerous images of children under the age of twelve engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Mr. Hagedorn also distributed images of child pornography over the internet.

Hagedorn, 49, 700 block of Horn St., Washington, Missouri, pled guilty to one felony count of possession of child pornography. He appeared before United States District Judge Rodney Sippel. Hagedorn now faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or fines up to \$250,000, followed by supervised release for life. Sentencing has been set for January 5, 2007.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit

www.projectsafekchildhood.gov

In addition to the Franklin County Sheriff's Department, Hanaway commended the work on the case by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Missouri Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the Regional Computer Crimes Education and Enforcement Group, and Assistant United States Attorney Carrie Costantin, who is handling the case for the U.S. Attorney's Office.

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